

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of purging a fuel processing system comprising a steam reformer having a catalyst comprising nickel is provided. In one embodiment, the present method comprises supplying a purge gas to the steam reformer, the purge gas comprising an inert gas and hydrogen. A fuel processing system is also provided, the present system comprising: a steam reformer having a catalyst comprising nickel; means for supplying a purge gas at least to the reformer; and, a hydrogen supply for supplying hydrogen to the purge gas.

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